



did you hear the news?

I did, I did!

a dragon went on a rampage!

where? in London?

I wonder if we'll be able to play with the dragons again.



one of the ones who can talk with us. a slay veqa.

who was it again?

really? I guess they're not all useless, after all!



I heard a child of man managed to calm the dragon down.



the humans wouldn't allow it. they're too afraid.

I guess you're right.





hmm?  
are you  
leaving?



I'll be  
back by  
the after-  
noon.

...Ruth.



...?  
OF COURSE.



...if you had  
to make  
the choice  
between  
Chise and  
someone  
else.

you would  
always  
choose  
Chise,  
wouldn't  
you?

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# 魔法使いの嫁

The Ancient Magus' Bride

誰がための、最善。

第39篇 Necessity has no law.

ヤマザキ コレ  
YAMAZAKI KORE



mihmm.

I know  
you're there,  
spirit of  
wind.



...You're  
a new  
face.

oh, you're  
looking for  
her? she's  
here, peacefully  
wandering  
around some-  
where to  
the south.

it's hard  
for us to get  
back together  
once we've  
scattered to  
the winds.

It's a  
nice night,  
wouldn't  
you say?



.....

I know  
the scent  
that I'm  
looking  
for.

you're in for  
an awful,  
half-formed

but if  
I do  
happen to  
see her,

I'll tell her  
what happened  
to her favor-  
ite child.



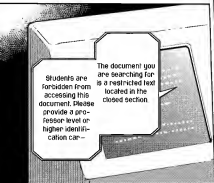






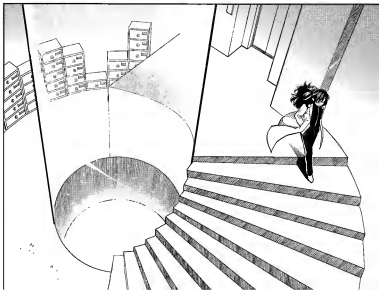


*I'm searching  
for a book.*



Students are  
forbidden from  
accessing this  
document. Please  
provide a pro-  
fessor level or  
higher identifi-  
cation car-

The document you  
are searching for  
is a restricted text  
located in the  
closed section.







Oh, forgive me.  
I was just  
so excited  
I couldn't  
contain  
myself.

heheh



Is that really  
the only price  
you want  
in return?



But I  
know that  
if I asked  
for your  
student,

I'd probably  
find my way  
into an un-  
marked grave  
somewhere in  
the woods.



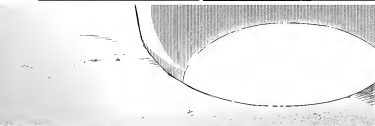
...Calm  
down.

You're going  
to help me  
read this book,  
and in return  
I'll show you  
some mage-  
craft.

I keep my  
promises;  
you don't need  
to act like  
an excited  
schoolgirl.



IT REALLY IS!  
YOU CAME TO ME  
BECAUSE YOU  
THOUGHT I'D BE  
EASILY BRIBED.  
DIDN'T YOU?





let your leaves and branches  
become as blades.

Throw yourself to the  
winds and dance.

For those greedy hands that  
would trespass upon you,





I'm doing research on the differences between magecraft and wizardry, you see, so I just couldn't keep my composure.

Oh! Forgive me if I disturbed you.

...The differences?

Vibes.

*That was beautiful.*



As you know, wizardry was born from magecraft.

Some say that what we do is hacking reality.

We look for roads that lead us to new laws of how the world works.

Instead of accepting things as the way they are, wizards search for the why behind them.

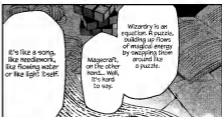
...and turn it into something more structured and logical.

It aims to take an art that depends on inborn talent...



Don't get me wrong, I love seeing the neat order of wizardry, but...

There's just something indescribably beautiful about tracing the path of a magus's work.



It's like a song, like needlework, like flowing water or like light itself.

Magecraft, on the other hand... Well, it's hard to say.

Wizardry is an equation. A puzzle, building up flows of magical energy by swapping them around like a puzzle.



None of the magi who have worked with me up until now have been even the least bit similar.

That goes for you too, of course.



Thank you, Mr. Finsworth.



This looks beautiful to you humans, does it.



It probably  
wouldn't be  
good for me to  
ask why exactly  
you needed  
that book,  
right?

...So,

To me,  
at least.



...What did  
my magic  
look like,  
to you?

I want  
to know.



It's got to  
have something  
to do with the  
Sky Veget,  
of course.



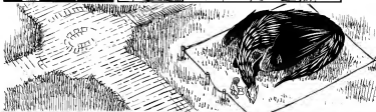
That would  
be best for  
the both of us.



Well,  
all magecraft  
is terrifyingly  
beautiful to me,  
or beautifully  
terrifying,  
maybe.

But you  
in particular?  
Hmm...











but I know  
He's watching  
us from  
on high.

I don't believe  
that God likes  
to interfere in  
our affairs,



WHAT?

That's the smile  
of a serial killer.  
No doubt about it.  
Horror movie  
material, that is.

...Wow,  
what a  
face.



Oh,  
I see...

Not  
good.

Joking aside,  
how's Ms. Chise  
doing?

I was just  
on my way  
to visit,  
actually.



I don't know  
if you'd count  
Him as an  
ally, but...

Hmm.

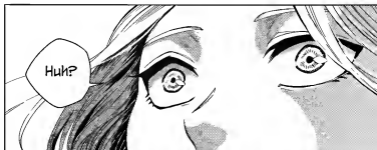
And sometimes,  
that's enough.  
Just knowing  
He's there.



I'll send up  
a prayer for  
you and  
yours.











...if only you'd followed me to faerie, none of this would have happened...

silly girl...



and a slay vega took on its curse to save it!

this island's people had some interesting news, did you know that!

they told me a dragon went berserk,



and now look at you!



I'll manage, somehow.

Everything will be fine soon.





...Aerial?



...and if  
I answer,  
"no"?



If I hadn't  
been a  
Slay Vega,  
would you  
still have  
helped me?



why me?



What would  
you ask in  
return?

I have  
a favor  
to ask.

It's not  
a contract,  
and I don't  
need your  
magic.



Elias is  
planning  
something  
by himself,  
and he's not  
telling me.



the ones  
you live with  
would gladly  
come to  
your aid if  
you asked.



but he's  
taking a path  
he doesn't want  
me to know  
about.

I asked him  
to walk  
with me.



I need  
someone  
to stand  
with me.

Someone  
who'll do  
what I ask,  
no matter  
what might  
happen.



And that's  
why I can't ask  
Elias. Maybe  
not Ruth,  
either.



If I made  
a contract  
with you,  
he'd find out  
somehow.

But...



Thank you.

but you're the only one who'll talk with me.



